



METROPOLITAN
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COMMISSION

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Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2010

Chair Paul Branson called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. Members in attendance: Janet Abelson, Joe Bischofberger, Eleanor Bloch, Myrtle Braxton, Richard Burnett, David Grant, Richard Hedges, Dolores Jaquez, Julio Lacayo, Suzanne Levine, Marshall Loring, Marc Roddin, and Craig Yates. Excused: Ken Altenburger.

Audience Members in Attendance

David Reynoso, ACTIA. There was no public comment.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 7, 2010 meeting were approved after a motion by Ms. Abelson and a second by Mr. Roddin. Mr. Bischofberger abstained.

Legislative Report

The report by Rebecca Long of MTC staff was received by the committee.

Member comment:

Ms. Abelson asked if the gas tax swap proposal would affect the local portion of the sales tax. Ms. Long explained that only the state portion of the sales tax on gasoline would be eliminated. Given that the sales tax of gasoline would be increased, the “spillover” would be eliminated.

Mr. Hedges asked if transit funding would be eliminated. Ms. Long noted that the amount of the excise tax would be indexed every year to keep pace with what would have been generated by the sales tax on gas. Ms. Abelson asked how transit funding would be affected by the gas tax swap proposal. Ms. Long explained that new amounts would most likely be similar to past amounts and may even be higher since the spillover was often diverted to

other things. Mr. Hedges noted that the original gasoline sales tax proposal was presented to voters as a transit revenue measure. Ms. Long concurred and noted that the Legislature effectively eliminated Proposition 42 with this proposal. Ms. Braxton asked about future funding for transit. Ms. Long noted that future funding is not guaranteed. Mr. Loring said legislators would find another route to take the money away from transit. Mr. Hedges noted that diversions are not limited to transportation. Mr. Lacayo noted his appreciation for Ms. Long's work for the committee. Chair Branson also thanked Ms. Long for her work.

Member Updates

Ms. Levine announced that March 5 is the deadline to apply for FEMA's Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee.

Mr. Hedges commended the work of Hawaiian authorities during the tsunami warning.

Mr. Loring noted that San Mateo residents are worried about high-speed rail, and added that the city has scheduled a series of workshops to address concerns.

Chair Branson announced that CalACT will be holding their conference in San Francisco the third week in April. He will be presenting in one of the panels regarding mobility management.

Advisory Council Report

The minutes of the January 13 and February 10 Advisory Council meetings were received by the committee.

Subcommittee Reports

Chair Branson suggested that the recommended action items be forwarded to the new Policy Advisory Council rather than the Commission.

Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee Chair Burnett noted that the subcommittee's recommended action items were approved at their meeting in

February. He also announced that Ms. Bloch is the author of AB 2051 (Tran), a bill to prepare a specialized plan to mobilize senior citizens and disabled persons during an emergency or natural disaster.

Chair Branson asked for a motion to refer the subcommittee's action items. Mr. Hedges recommended that all the subcommittees' action items be voted on together.

Transportation and Land Use Subcommittee Co-chair Hedges presented his subcommittee's action items. He also announced that MTC introduced AB 2516 (Hill), the subcommittee's bill to increase accessibility to townhomes. Co-chair Loring noted there may be some pushback on their bill from the California Building Industry Association.

Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee Chair Grant said that the feedback the subcommittee received after the pedestrian safety summit included: maintaining an e-mail list of all participants; holding a follow up summit; and comments that the event was successful. Among the concerns, comments received included: the e-vite's format and registration cap; ADA/access issues were not part of the agenda; and law enforcement agencies were not invited to the summit.

Chair Grant summarized the action items his subcommittee would like to forward to the Policy Advisory Council:

- Make pedestrian safety an ongoing priority of the Commission
- Move MTC staff to adopt a regional pedestrian safety plan
- Host another pedestrian safety summit
- Encourage local programs to do pedestrian counts and make the data accessible to everyone
- Work to allow access to SWITRS data and UC Berkeley's geo-mapping site

Mobility Management Subcommittee Co-chair Branson presented his subcommittee's action items.

Mr. Lacayo noted that using Caltrans' freeway signage for senior issues is doable. Ms. Braxton noted that creating a seamless paratransit system is very important. Mr. Roddin recommended that the words "be able to" be removed from the first paragraph, second sentence of the Mobility Management action items. Co-chair Branson accepted the change.

Ms. Bloch asked who on MTC staff works on ADA and disability issues. Ms. Vogler said Kristen Mazur and Jennifer Yeamans. Ms. Levine noted that pushing the Commission on accessibility issues has not moved them to take action on the accessibility of meetings and their materials.

Mr. Hedges moved to refer all the recommended action items to the Policy Advisory Council and send a carbon copy to the Commission, including the amendment made to the Mobility Management action items. Ms. Levine seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the committee.

Staff Liaison Report

Ms. Vogler thanked the committee members for all their years of work on the committee. Mr. Hedges asked that she send out a contact list of the current members.

Chair's Report

Chair Branson thanked staff and members for all their hard work for EDAC.

Other Business, Next Meeting

A new Policy Advisory Council, created by the Commission in November 2009, will effectively merge MTC's three advisory committees — the MTC Advisory Council, the Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee, and the Minority Citizens Advisory Committee. These three advisory committees will sunset with the formation of the Policy Advisory Council, effective March 24, 2010. The new Policy Advisory Council will hold its first meeting in April 2010. Actual meeting date and time will be posted on the MTC Meeting Schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.